

Message Text

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43

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CEQ-02 EPA-04 AID-20 CIAE-00

COA-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 INR-10 IO-13 L-03 NSF-04

NSC-10 NSAE-00 PM-07 RSC-01 SS-15 CEA-02 EA-11 FRB-02

NEA-10 OPIC-12 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

RSR-01 /182 W

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R 091639Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6171

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, EEC, GW

SUBJECT: EUROPEAN COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM

REF: STATE 130590

1. SUMMARY. EMBASSY REPRESENTATIONS REQUESTED REFTEL
PRODUCED POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM APPROPRIATE FRG OFFICIAL.
GERMAN STATEMENT ABOUT EC ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM AT
COUNCIL MEETING IN JULY WILL ENDORSE INTERNATIONAL
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CONSULTATIONS ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS. FOR TACTICAL

REASONS, FRG REP QUESTIONED WHETHER GERMANY WOULD BE BEST CHOICE FOR SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATION THAT EC COMMISSION CONSULT USG. HE SUGGESTED DUTCH MAY BE BETTER CHOICE TO MAKE THIS POINT EXPLICITLY. END SUMMARY. ACTION REQUESTED. COMMENTS FROM EC BRUSSELS AND THE HAGUE.

2. IN EMBASSY VIEW, FRG POSITION ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS IN EC OFFERED GOOD BASIS FOR REPRESENTATIONS REQUESTED REFTEL. ACCORDINGLY, EMBASSY SCIENCE ATTACHE DISCUSSED TOPIC WITH PETER MENKE-GLUECKERT, "DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY" OF INTERIOR FOR INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS. MENKE-GLUECKERT (M.G.) RESPONDED PROMPTLY AND POSITIVELY. DRAFT STATEMENT TO BE MADE AT EC COUNCIL MEETING BY FRG INTERIOR MINISTER GENSCHER ALREADY CONTAINS REFERENCES TO DESIRABILITY OF INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTATIONS. M.G. PROMISED TO RE-EXAMINE DRAFT TEXT IN LIGHT OF REFTEL ARGUMENTS AND TO STRENGTHEN IT IF NECESSARY.

3. M.G. THEN REVIEWED BACKGROUND OF EC ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM, INCLUDING FRENCH ATTITUDE. IN HIS OPINION, WELL-KNOWN CONFLICTS ABOUT ROLE OF EC COMMISSION IN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND ITS AS YET LIMITED TECHNICAL COMPETENCE IN THIS AREA DO RAISE SOME SUBSTANTIVE QUESTIONS ABOUT FEASIBILITY OF COMMISSION CONSULTATIONS WITH NON-EC MEMBERS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. HE NOTED THAT OECD-EC RELATIONSHIP WAS COMPLEX AND SOMETIMES DIFFICULT.

4. M.G. RECALLED MINISTER GENSCHER'S STATEMENT DURING THE VIENNA ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL (MARCH 28-30, 1973). ACCORDING TO M.G., GENSCHER'S REMARKS ABOUT INTERNATIONAL ASPECTS OF THE ENVIRONMENT WERE CRITICIZED IN A LETTER FROM ONE EC COMMISSIONER WHO CHARGED THAT THE FRG POSITION DEVIATED FROM THE COMMISSION VIEWPOINT. M.G. FOUND THIS COMMISSION ACTION ALMOST INCREDIBLE AND REPORTED THAT GENSCHER HAD REPLIED IN A STRONGLY WORDED NOTE.

5. IN M.G. VIEW, FRG IS "MOST PROGRESSIVE" EC MEMBER IN ENVIRONMENTAL AREA AND HAS REPUTATION OF PRESSING HARD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOR CONTROVERSIAL ASPECTS OF EC ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM. FRG LEGISLATION ON LEAD IN GASOLINE AND SULFUR IN OIL IS MORE RIGOROUS THAN PRESENT EC PHILOSOPHY. CONSEQUENTLY, HE SPECULATED THAT FRG MIGHT NOT RPT NOT BE MOST APPROPRIATE EC MEMBER TO TAKE LEAD IN URGING THAT COMMISSION BE AUTHORIZED TO CONSULT WITH USG AND OTHERS. M.G. REITERATED THAT FRG STATEMENT AT EC COUNCIL MEETING WOULD BE FAVORABLE TO US VIEW BUT HE QUESTIONED WHETHER

IT WOULD BE TACTICALLY DESIRABLE FOR FRG TO MENTION USG SPECIFICALLY. IN HIS VIEW, THE DUTCH WOULD BE A BETTER CHOICE FOR EXPLICIT REFERENCE TO COMMISSION ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTATIONS WITH USG.

6. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE COMMENTS FROM EC BRUSSELS AND THE HAGUE. WE WILL CONTINUE OUR CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER APPROPRIATE FRG OFFICIALS.
HILLENBRAND

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